

STATE SENATOR • DEBORAH CHERRY • 26TH DISTRICT

Cherry Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-1636 • Fax: 517-373-1453
E-mail: sendcherry@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/SD26



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CONTACT: Sen. Deb Cherry (D-Burton)
(517) 373-1636

Kidney Foundation Names Sen. Cherry A Champion of Hope *Honors Lawmaker's Dedication to Kidney Disease Prevention*

LANSING – The National Kidney Foundation of Michigan will honor State Senator Deborah Cherry (D-Burton) as a Champion of Hope at its annual Champion of Hope Tribute Dinner on April 20, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., at the Michigan State University Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center in East Lansing.

Sen. Cherry has supported the group's statewide kidney disease prevention programs. She is also a proponent of healthy living and has sponsored legislation to promote good health among the state's elementary school students.

"It's humbling to know that my individual effort has been recognized as help to many," Sen. Cherry said. "Kidney disease is preventable and the more people we educate about prevention, the more lives will be saved."

Diabetes and high blood pressure are the two-leading causes of kidney failure in the United States, according to the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan. While some forms of diabetes are hereditary, experts recommend exercise, limited protein intake, smoking cessation, regular doctor visits and healthy diet as ways to reduce or slow the onset of kidney failure.

One in nine American adults have chronic kidney disease and most don't know it, health experts report. About 200,000 Americans suffer from chronic kidney failure and need dialysis to stay alive.

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Sen. Deborah Cherry is a first-term Democrat from Burton, Michigan. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee, where she sits on the Higher Education, Department of Community Health, Department of Natural Resources and Capital Outlay subcommittees